



PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 04329.2392-00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
Tadahiro AIHARA et al. ) Group Art Unit: 2644  
Application No.: 09/660,490 ) Examiner: Flanders, Andrew C.  
Filed: September 12, 2000 )  
For: RECORDING AND REPRODUCING ) Confirmation No.: 6306  
APPARATUS AND A METHOD )  
THEREOF )

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**AMENDMENT**

This paper is responsive to the Office Action mailed December 20, 2004, which has a period for response extending through March 21, 2005 (March 20, 2005, being a Sunday).

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims in this paper beginning on page 2.

Remarks follow the amendment section of this paper and begin on page 12.

1202 50X2 - 100  
1201 200X1 - 200

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100.00 DA  
200.00 DA

Claims 2-4 depend upon claim 1; claims 6-8 depend upon claim 5; claims 18-20 depend upon claim 17; and claims 22-24 depend upon claim 21. The § 103(a) rejection of claims 2-4, 6-8, 18-20, and 22-24 should be withdrawn at least because of such dependency. Applicants thus request withdrawal of the § 103(a) rejection and the timely allowance of claims 1-8 and 17-24.

**New claims 33 and 34**

New independent claim 33 recites, *inter alia*, "means for disabling the reproducing means to stop reproduction of the content and enabling the recording means to start recording of a new content when said determining means determines that the apparatus is connected to the external device." Neither *Burrows*, nor *Terui*, nor any combination thereof, teaches or suggests at least this feature. For at least this reason, new claim 33 should be allowed over those references. New claim 34 should be allowed at least because of its dependence upon independent claim 33. Applicants therefore request the timely allowance of new claims 33 and 34.

**Conclusion**


Applicants request the Examiner's reconsideration of the application in view of the foregoing, and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: March 21, 2005

By:   
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